

NEWS RELEASE

CITY OF ASHEVILLE • PO Box 7148 • Asheville, NC 28802

FROM THE ASHEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

**Contact: Debbie Ivester
 828-259-5804
 divester@ashevillenc.gov**

For Immediate Release

Date: November 4, 2005

REID CENTER PRESENTS “THE WIZZLE”

Asheville, NC – What would Frank Baum, creator of *The Wizard of Oz* make of Doritha (a.k.a. Dorothy) from the “hood”? Her journey is one of self-realization the likes of which Mr. Baum could never imagine in his time.

The Asheville Parks and Recreation Department will present *The Wizzle*, a new production based on *Oz*, but brought up to date by the young actors at the W. C. Reid Center for Creative Arts. The story explores the deep process of change required not only by Doritha, but also all the characters in the poor neighborhood where hopelessness and anger run rampant. The heroine must navigate the crisis and damaging situations, which surround her everyday life, not unlike the youth who are part of this creative process.

The script of *The Wizzle*, with original music and choreography, comes from the actors themselves under the direction of W. LaVone Griffin, the new director for the W. C. Reid Center for Creative Arts. Griffin is at the helm of this production and sees a bright future, not only for the center, but also for a chance to impact the lives of the at-risk youth who live in the city and attend the centers after school programs.

The Wizzle is produced with support of the Junior League of Asheville and the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina.

Show times are daily, November 18-20 at the W.C. Reid Center for Creative Arts, 133 Livingston St. Admission is \$5 for adults, and ages 18 and under are free. For information and reservations, contact the center at 828-350-2048, or reidc@ashevillenc.gov.

Show Time:

Friday, November 18, 6 p.m.

Saturday, November 19, 1p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday, November 20, 3 p.m.

###

Asheville Parks and Recreation Department
Gold Medal Winner
1st Nationally Accredited Municipal Recreation Department
www.ashevilleparks.org